

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-19 (cancelled)

Claim 20 (Currently amended) An oxygen generating composition for producing a breathable gas upon ignition of the composition, comprising:

~~tin powder~~ iron powder as a fuel;

strontium peroxide as a sole catalyst and as a sole chlorine remover and reaction rate modifier for the oxygen generating composition; and

an oxygen source selected from the group consisting of alkali metal chlorates, alkali metal perchlorates, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 21 (Previously presented) The oxygen generating composition of Claim 20, further comprising a binder.

Claim 22 (Previously presented) The oxygen generating composition of Claim 1, wherein said oxygen source is an alkali metal chlorate selected from the group consisting of sodium chlorate, potassium perchlorate, lithium perchlorate, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 23 (Previously presented) The oxygen generating composition of Claim 21, wherein said binder is an inorganic binder selected from the group consisting of glass powder, glass fiber, ceramic fiber, bentonite, kaolinite and mixtures thereof.

Claim 24 (Currently amended) An oxygen generating composition for producing a breathable gas upon ignition of the composition, comprising:

from zero to about 15% by weight of ~~tin powder~~ iron powder as a fuel;

about 0.1-20% by weight strontium peroxide as a sole catalyst and as a sole chlorine remover and reaction rate modifier for the oxygen generating composition;

from zero to about 5% of a binder; and

the remainder of an oxygen source selected from the group consisting of alkali metal chlorates, alkali metal perchlorates, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 25 (Previously presented) The oxygen generating composition of Claim 24, wherein said oxygen source is an alkali metal chlorate selected from the group consisting of sodium chlorate, potassium perchlorate, lithium perchlorate, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 26 (Previously presented) The oxygen generating composition of Claim 24, wherein said binder is an inorganic binder selected from the group consisting of glass powder, glass fiber, ceramic fiber, bentonite, kaolinite and mixtures thereof.

Claim 27 (Currently amended) An oxygen generating composition for producing a breathable oxygen gas upon ignition of the composition, comprising:

from zero to about 12% by weight of ~~tin powder~~ iron powder as a fuel;

about 1-6% by weight strontium peroxide as a sole catalyst and as a sole chlorine remover and reaction rate modifier for the oxygen generating composition;
from zero to about 5% of a binder; and
the remainder of an oxygen source selected from the group consisting of alkali metal chlorates, alkali metal perchlorates, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 28 (Previously presented) The oxygen generating composition of Claim 27, wherein said oxygen source is an alkali metal chlorate selected from the group consisting of sodium chlorate, potassium perchlorate, lithium perchlorate, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 29 (Previously presented) The oxygen generating composition of Claim 27, wherein said binder is an inorganic binder selected from the group consisting of glass powder, glass fiber, ceramic fiber, bentonite, kaolinite and mixtures thereof.